

International Education Committee

Report to the Senate 2021-2022

Submitted by Dr. Leyla Zidani-Eroglu, Chair, on April 28, 2022

Committee Members: Cassandra Broadus-Garcia, Cheryl Crespi, Sourav Chakraborty, Sheri Fafunwa-Ndibe, Karen Ritzenhoff, Allison Seifert, Michael Wizevich, Leyla Zidani-Eroglu. Marthew Foust (IS Program Director), Momar Ndiaye and Zongxiang Mei (CIE, non-voting), Martin Reyna (Student representative, SGA)

The IEC held a total of 7 online meetings during the academic 2021-2022 year. The following officers were elected at its first meeting in September 2021:

- i. Leyla Zidani-Eroglu: Chair.
- ii. Sheri Fafunwa-Ndibe: Secretary

The committee worked on several issues related to internationalization of the university during the 2021-2-22 academic year:

1. Faculty Opportunities to Lead Courses Abroad

The CIE provided regular reports about course and study abroad conditions at each meeting within the context of federal and state regulations regarding international and domestic travel safety. Since the pandemic in March 2021 study abroad courses have been cancelled, but with some borders opening up a small number of study abroad opportunities are planned to take place during Summer 2022.

In collaboration with the CIE, the IEC held a workshop on Course Abroad on February 14 to provide faculty with useful information about how to propose and run a successful course abroad. Two experienced faculty members shared their expertise. There was faculty interest and for those unable to attend due to time conflicts, Ms. Zhongxian shared the workshop slides with those faculty. Notes were taken for use in the future to build an on-line faculty toolbox with FAQs and information for faculty to reference.

The committee agreed that a survey instrument (viz., yes/no questions and additional comments) in collaboration with the CIE could be devised to elicit participants' feedback for future considerations in structuring such workshops. A survey would allow us to gather questions for the FAQ section of the Course Abroad Faculty Toolbox.

2. Pathway Program Plan and the Intensive English Language Program (IELP)

The Pathway Program Plan which was worked on extensively and continuously by the IEC was approved by the CIE in Fall 2020. Though the pandemic slowed down the process, this semester an online meeting took place on April 26 among the following parties: current and last year's IEC chairs, the CIE director, IELP director, Patricia Gardner (CIE), and higher administrators such as Kimberly Kostelis (Interim Provost and VP for Academic Affairs), Steven Minkler (Assoc. VP of Academic Affairs), and Christin Robinson (Assoc. VP for Graduate Studies). The meeting was informative, generated positive discussion, and concluded on a positive note to

continue the conversation to hammer out details regarding implementation, policy, marketing and recruitment so that CCSU could launch such a Pathway Program Plan on a full-scale starting Fall 2023, and perhaps on a smaller scale in Spring 2023.

3. International Lecture Series

This subcommittee was established in the previous academic year since the CIE reported that it has funds available. Its founding member (Broadus-Garcia, Chakraborty, Wizevich, Zidani-Eroglu) continued to serve during the 2021-2022 academic year with an additional member who was newly elected to the committee at large (C. Crespi).

In Fall 2021, the IEC co-sponsored the event on Crisis/Migration/Integration with the Center for African Studies and the CCSU Art Gallery. The successful event was well attended both in-person and virtually.

In Spring 2022, IEC organized a Webinar on “Impact of Covid-19 on Education of Institutions of Higher Education Across the Globe” with international academics from Australia, Bolivia, India, Nigeria, and CCSU (one faculty, one student). The event took place at 7 pm on Monday, April 25, 2022 on zoom, was well attended, and was open to public. See Appendix for more details.

4. Faculty International Travel Research Grant (Hyundai)

This grant remains canceled due to the pandemic. The IEC has not been notified as of now whether the CIE will announce the competition to make the funds available for the 2022-2023 academic year. With the gradual easing of international travel restrictions, the IEC remains hopeful that the funding and the activities will resume for the following academic year.

5. Academic Programs with an International Focus or Component

The co-director of the interdisciplinary International Studies Program (Foust) reported that there are no activities to report.

6. Campus Internationalization

The IEC discussed opportunities to strengthen the connection among the campus community and international faculty and students. The IEC and CIE agreed on collaborating in this regard.

7. Other

The IEC works closely with the CIE and depends on information provided by the CIE on a number of internationally related issues regarding CCSU. The regular presence of the International Education Coordinator over the years has been tremendously beneficial in all CIE and IEC collaborative activities. To this end, the IEC has agreed to invite to its meetings the Intensive English Language Program (IELP) director and Assoc. Director in charge of the International Faculty and Student Services. Their attendance is voluntary and none of these invitees would be voting members. These positions are housed within the organizational hierarchy at the CIE which the Director of the CIE oversees. The CIE Director is a regular non-voting member of the IEC according to its bylaws.

Appendix

Webinar



Prof. Hope Eghagha
Nigeria



Dr. Cara Mulcahy
CCSU



Prof. Amanda White
Australia



Dr. Sanjib Ganguly
India



Prof. Marcelo Manuel
Teran Mitre, Bolivia



Kiernan Foster
CCSU

When: Monday, 25th April at 7:00 PM (EST)
Please register here: <https://survey.ccsu.edu/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=14114010> (a zoom link will be sent to the registrants before the webinar)

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
COMMITTEE PRESENTS

A PANEL DISCUSSION ON
IMPACT OF COVID-19
PANDEMIC ON EDUCATION AT
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
EDUCATION ACROSS THE
GLOBE

Sponsored by
Center for International
Education, CCSU

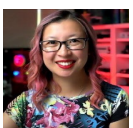
For registration related questions, please contact
Dr. Sourav Chakraborty (schakraborty@ccsu.edu)



Prof. Hope Eghagha is a Professor of English, drama, dramatic literature and theory in Department of English, University of Lagos. He served as Chair of the Department from 2016-2019. He has published creative works of poetry, drama and prose fiction to his credit, as well as academic essays in peer-reviewed journals. Eghagha is also a columnist with leading newspapers in Nigeria. Email: heghagha@unilag.edu.ng



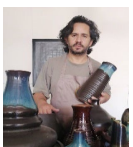
Cara Mulcahy is a professor in the Department of Literacy, Elementary, and Early Childhood Education at Central Connecticut State University and a former middle school teacher. She holds a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with a concentration in English Education (University of Connecticut, 2005). She teaches courses in literacy methods, theories of literacy education, critical literacy, and children's literature. She has published two books: *Marginalized Literacies: Critical Literacy in the Language Arts Classroom* (2010) and *Discourses on Pedagogy, Praxis and Purpose in Education* (2015) coauthored with Donal E. Mulcahy and Daniel G. Mulcahy. Cara can be contacted at mulcahy_cam@ccsu.edu.



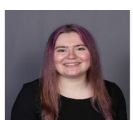
Amanda is a Senior Lecturer (equivalent to Associate Professor) and the Deputy Head (Education) of the Accounting Discipline in the UTS Business School. She is best known for loving auditing through her YouTube channel Amanda Loves to Audit. During COVID19, Amanda directed the transition of over 25 subjects to online models and her own subjects are the highest rated in her Faculty in terms of student satisfaction. Amanda is also a teaching award winner at the faculty, university and national level. Amanda can be contacted at Amanda.W.White@uts.edu.au.



Dr. Sanjib Ganguly holds the rank of Associate Professor in Department of Chemistry at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata, India. He is an inorganic chemist by training and has published several articles on molecular/electronic structure and electron transfer properties of transition metal complexes. He has been an educator for the past twenty-three years and mentored many students in their undergraduate, Masters' and Ph.D. work. He was born and brought-up in Kolkata, India and will be sharing his teaching and mentoring experiences during COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Ganguly can be contacted at icsgxav@gmail.com



Prof. Marcelo Manuel Teran Mitre, was born on August 5, 1964 in Cochabamba - Bolivia. He began his adventure in the world of ceramics in 1983, from that moment to date he does not stop making ceramics, both in production, artistic, as in teaching, organization of meetings of ceramists, exhibitions, fairs and other activities linked to ceramic art. Marcelo could be reached at marceloteranceramica@gmail.com



Kiernan Foster is a graduating CCSU senior with a BS in Chemistry and a minor in Statistics. She is transitioning to Ph.D. program in Chemistry at University of Virginia. She is also a member of the Honors program. In past couple of years, during pandemic, she completed extensive undergraduate research with Drs. Sarah Maurer (CCSU) and Richard Vachet (UMASS, Amherst). At this time, she is writing a manuscript with Dr. Maurer on prebiotic soup that will shed new light on Origins of Life research. Kiernan serves as the President of the Chemistry Club at CCSU. Kiernan could be reached at fosterk@my.ccsu.edu